

STUDIES IN THE LEGUMINOSAE, 11.

A NEW SPECIES OF DERRIS FROM THE SOLOMON ISLANDS

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DURING A STAY at the Herbarium of the Komorov Botanical Institute, Academy of Sciences of the USSR, Leningrad, I came across an interesting specimen of *Derris* from the Solomon Islands (*Kajewski* 2290) which did not agree with material of any other species of this genus. After critical study, this specimen was found to represent a quite distinct undescribed species. Information was then requested from the Arnold Arboretum of Harvard University regarding the duplicates of the *Kajewski* collection. It was learned that these had been incorrectly identified as *Derris elegans* Benth. The characters of *Kajewski*'s plant are so well marked that it is being proposed here as a new species.

Derris salomonensis Thoth., spec. nov.

PLATES I, II.

Pertinet ad sect. DERRIS (§ *Euderris* Benth.) affinisque est *D. multiflorae* Benth., a qua tamen differt foliolis maioribus, inflorescentia glabra semper foliis brevior, pedicellis longioribus et ovario puberulo.

Planta volubilis in silva pluviali; ramuli glabri, lenticellati, striati. Folia imparipinnata, alterna, 32–40 cm. longa; foliola 5, ovato-oblonga vel oblonga, 14–22 × 6.5–9.5 cm., integra vel undulata ad margines, ad basin angustata, obtusa vel acuta, interdum breviter acuminata, subcoriacea, glabra, petiolulata, stipulata; nervi laterales 7–9-jugi, reticulati pulchre, rachide glabra; petiolulis 6–9 mm. longis; stipulis deciduis et stipellis linearibus. Inflorescentia axillaris racemosa, 9–12 cm. longa, multo foliis brevior rachide glabra. Flores 2–3 brevibus stipitibus insidentes e nodis emergentibus, 1–1.2 cm. longi; pedicelli tenues, 8–10 mm. longi, glabri vel minute puberuli; bracteae lineares, ad basin pedicelli; bracteolae binae, lineares, quarum una pedicello sub calyce ipso et altera basi calycis insident. Calyx campanulatus, 1.5–2 × 2–4 mm., brunneus puberulus extus, integer vel molliter dentatus. Corolla alba, vexillum ovato-orbiculare, breviter unguiculatum, glabrum, 1–1.3 cm. longum, retusum vel emarginatum ad apicem; alae anguste oblongae, distincte unguiculatae, 0.9–1 cm. longae, auriculatae infra; carina navicularis, connata infra, 0.9–1 cm. longa, distincte unguiculata; stamina 10, monadelphae, columna 0.9–1.1 cm. longa, divisa supra; filamentis liberis in triente superiore, antheris versatilibus. Pistillum 1–1.1 cm. longum, ovarium non stipitatum, elongatum, puberulum, stylo curvato, stigmatibus obliquo, ovulis 3–4. Legumen ignotum.

TYPE. Solomon Islands. Bougainville Island, Karngu, 50 m., 22. 10. 1930, S. F. *Kajewski* 2290 (LE, holotype; A, isotype).

The new species *Derris salomonensis*, a large climber in the rain forest, has handsome white flowers in pendent racemes. It is a member of sect. DERRIS (§ *Euderris* Benth.) and is related to *D. multiflora* Benth., from which it differs in its larger leaflets, glabrous inflorescence always shorter than the leaves, its longer pedicels and puberulous ovary.

The stamens of *Derris salomonensis* are basically monadelphous, but the vexillary filament is always free at the base and in its upper portion; it is united with the column only in the middle portion. The staminal column is split open dorsally and the other filaments are free for their upper third.

Additional material of this interesting new species, particularly in fruiting condition, would be most desirable.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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EXPLANATION OF PLATES

PLATE I

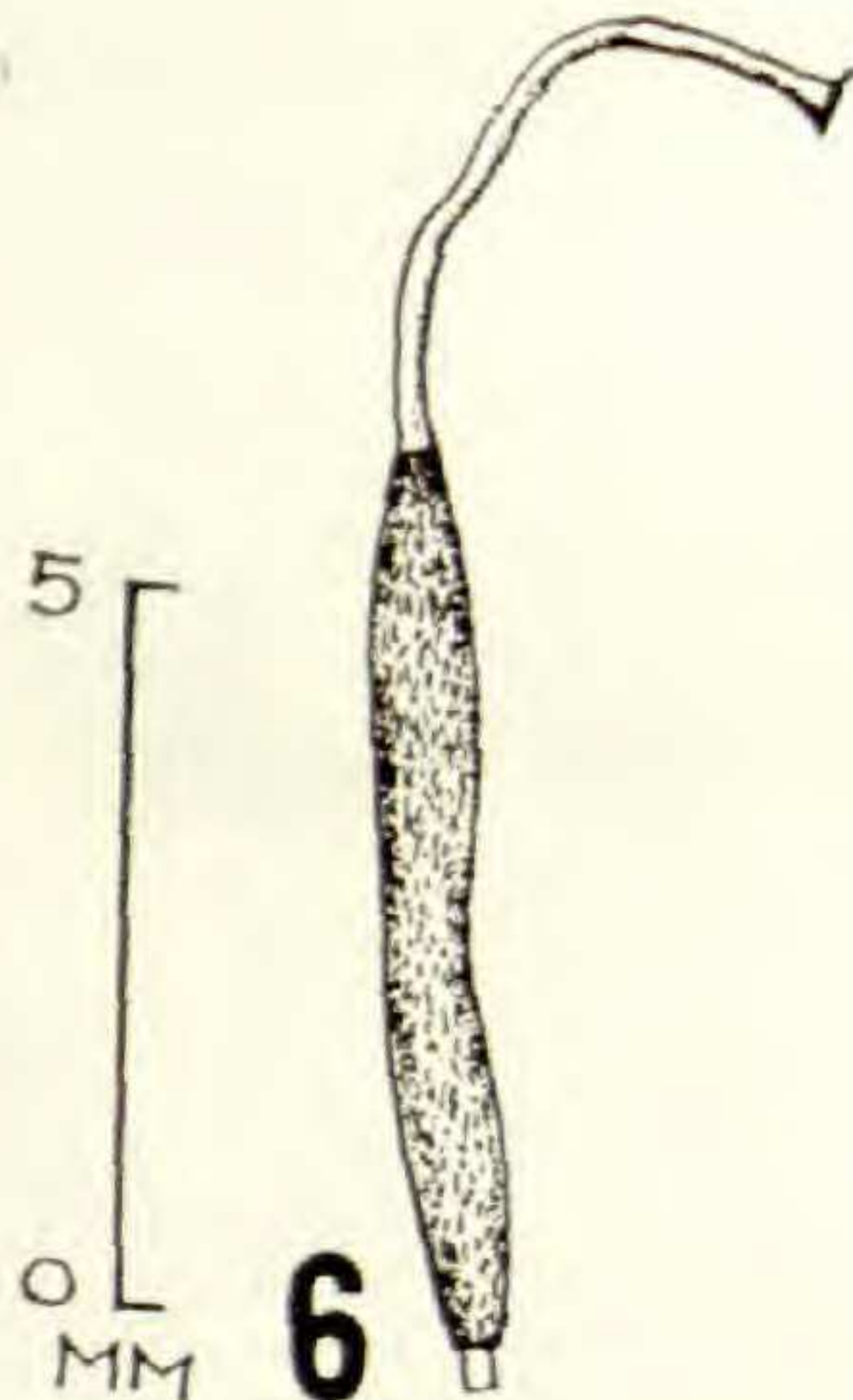
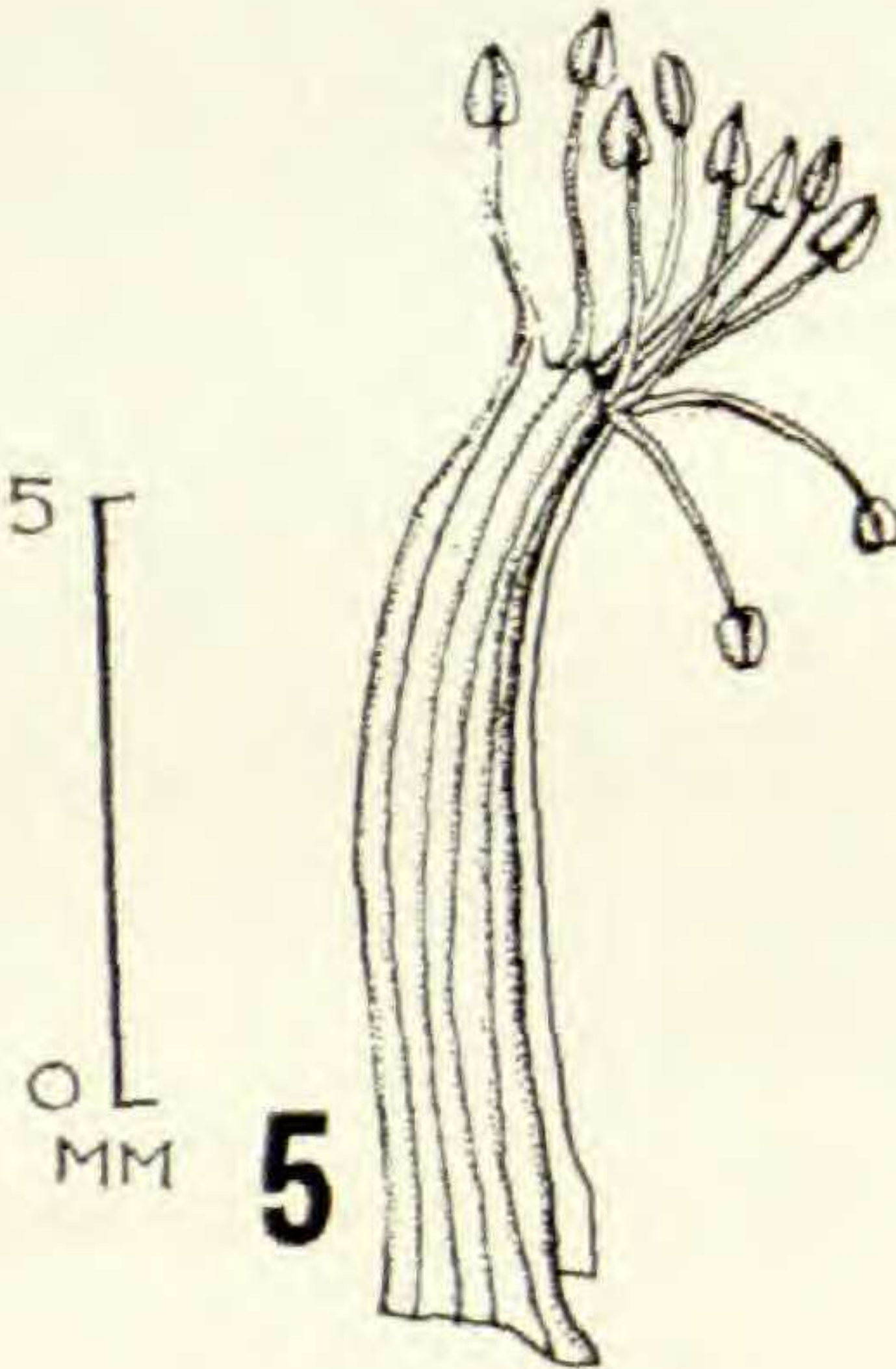
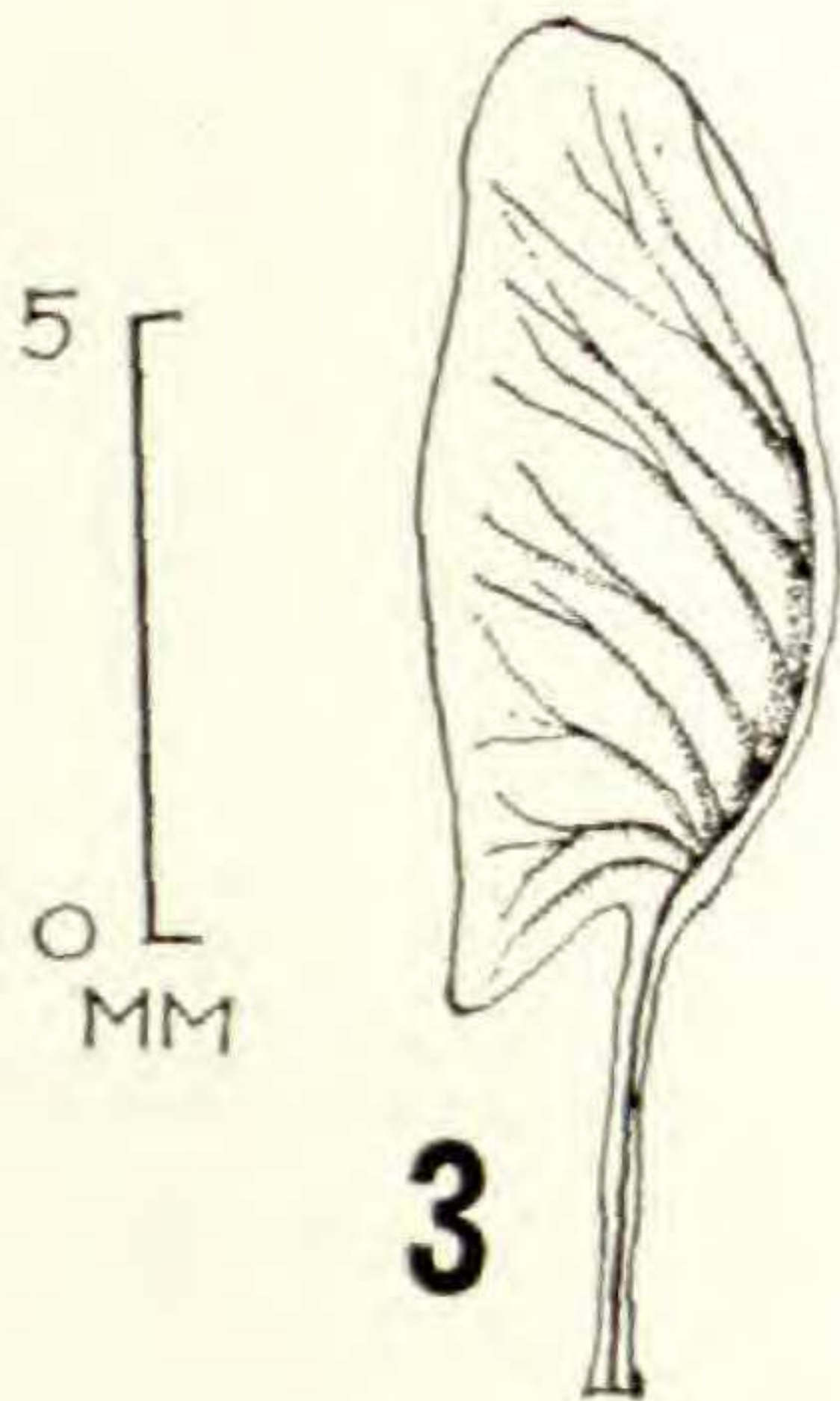
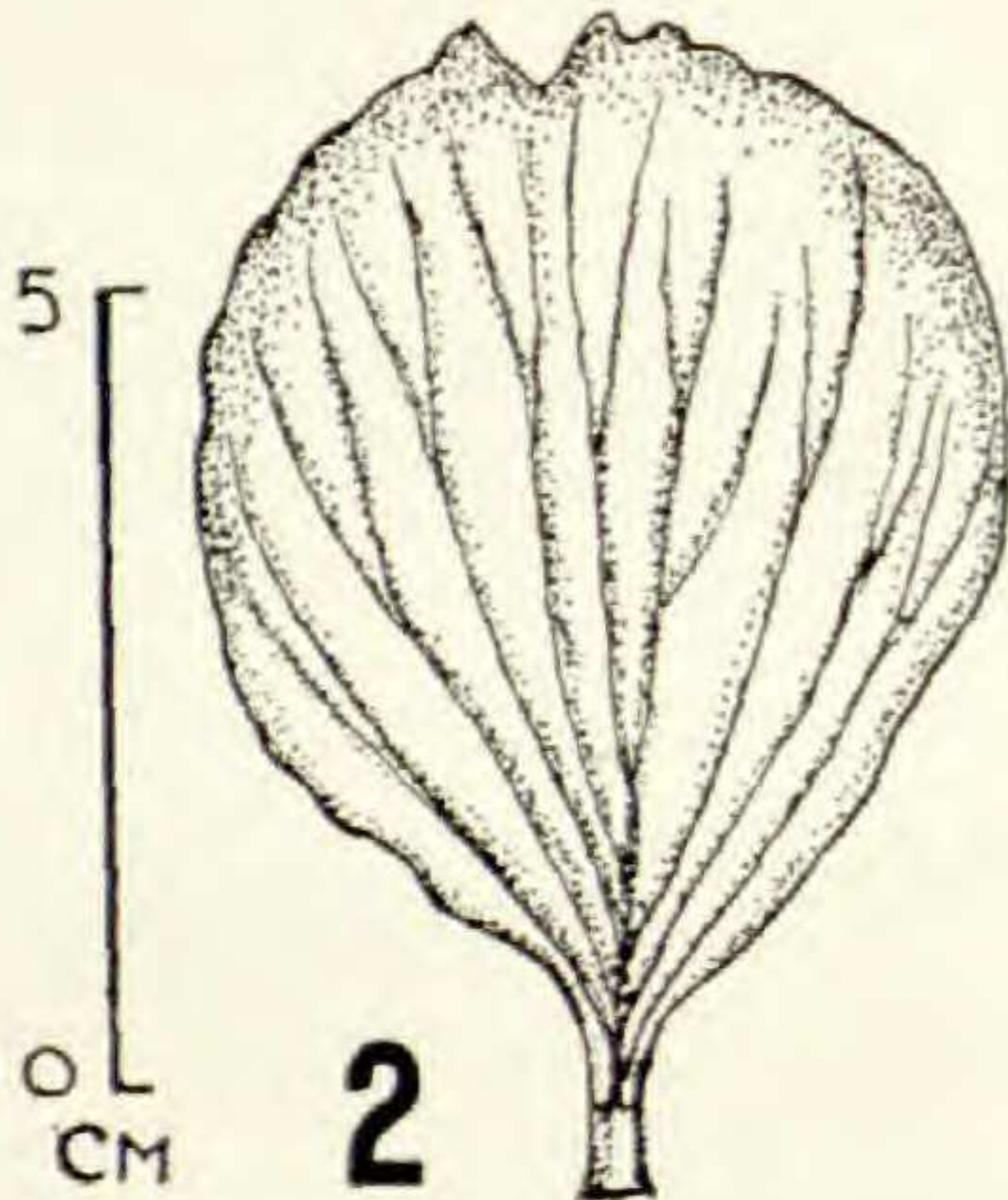
Derris salomonensis Thoth. Photograph of holotype, *Kajewski* 2290 (LE).

PLATE II

Derris salomonensis Thoth. Drawings of flower parts. FIGURE 1. Flower, including pedicel and bracteoles; FIGURE 2. Standard; FIGURE 3. Wing; FIGURE 4. Keel petal; FIGURE 5. Staminal column; FIGURE 6. Ovary with style and stigma. Enlargements as indicated on each figure.



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